

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 9-22, with the following amended paragraph:

Only a few approaches exist which impart a resistance to a broader spectrum of pathogens, in particular fungal pathogens, to plants. Systemic acquired resistance (SAR)—a defense mechanism in a variety of plant/pathogen interactions—can be conferred by the application of endogenous messenger substances such as jasmonin acid (JA) or salicylic acid (SA) (ward Ward, et al. (1991) Plant Cell 3:1085-1094; Uknes, et al. (1992) Plant Cell 4(6):645-656). Similar effects can also be achieved by synthetic compounds such as 2,6-dichloroisonicotinic acid (NA), or S-methyl benzo(1,2,3)thiadiazole-7-thiocarboxylate (BTH, Bion® BION) (Friedrich et al. (1996) Plant J. 10(1):61-70; Lawton et al. (1996) Plant J. 10:71-82). The expression of pathogenesis-related (PR) proteins, which are upregulated in the case of SAR, may also cause pathogen resistance in some cases.

Please replace the paragraph at page 22, lines 9-28 with the following amended paragraph:

The potato cyst nematode is Potato enemy Number 1. Regarding its injuriousness, this species surpasses all other Heterodera species; severe infestations can destroy up to 80% of the harvest. After the infestation with cyst nematodes, the plant fails to thrive and no cause can be discerned externally. Only an examination of the roots reveals pinhead-sized brownish, yellow or whitish cysts are revealed. The female nematodes burrow into the root, which they burst by means of their abdomen, which is filled with eggs and thereby swelling. While the packed abdomen is still surrounded by the soil, the nematode's mouth spear is still attached to the root. The female dies, and its solidifying skin becomes a protective cover (cyst) for the eggs and larvae. The cysts together with their contents are very resilient and can persist for a long time. Under suitable environmental conditions, the larvae burrow into the open and infest fresh roots. The most important cyst nematodes are the potato cyst nematode, the beet cyst nematode, the

cereal cyst nematode, the pea cyst nematode, the clover cyst nematode, the beet cyst eelworm, the hop cyst nematode, and the carrot cyst nematode (for the examination for potato cyst nematodes, see also: <http://www.bfl.at/>).

Please replace the paragraph at page 37, line 39 to page 38, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

5-enolpyruvylshikimate-3-phosphate synthase genes (EPSP synthase genes), which confer resistance to ~~Glyphosate®~~ glyphosate (N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine), the gox gene, which encodes ~~Glyphosate®~~ glyphosate-degrading enzymes (glyphosate oxidoreductase), the deh gene (encoding a dehalogenase which inactivates dalapon), sulfonylurea and imidazolinone-inactivating acetolactate synthases, and bxn genes, which encode bromoxynil-degrading nitrilase enzymes, the aasa gene, which confers resistance to the antibiotic spectinomycin, the streptomycin phosphotransferase (SPT) gene, which allows resistance to streptomycin, the neomycin phosphotransferase (nptII) gene, which confers resistance to kanamycin or gentamicin (G418), the hygromycin phosphotransferase (hpt) gene, which mediates resistance to hygromycin, the acetolactate synthase gene (als), which confers resistance to sulfonylurea herbicides (for example mutated ALS variants with for example, the S4 and/or Hra mutation).